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E V I D E N C E
R E L A T I V E T O
Dr. L E F E V R E ' S S P E C I F I C,
F O R T H E
G O U T, &c.

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A CANDID AND IMPARTIAL
STATE of the EVIDENCE
OF A VERY GREAT PROBABILITY,
That there is discovered
BY MONSIEUR LE FEVRE,
A REGULAR PHYSICIAN, Residing and Practising
at LIEGE in GERMANY,

A SPECIFIC for the GOUT.

CONTAINING

The Motives which induced the AUTHOR to listen to the
Pretensions of the LIEGE MEDICINE ; with an Account
of its Operations and Effects in his own Case.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

A NARRATIVE

Of the CASES of several other PATIENTS, Persons of Rank
and Reputation, who have been cured, or are now in a Course of
Cure of the GOUT, by the EFFICACY of Dr. LE FEVRE'S
POWDERS, communicated by themselves to the AUTHOR,
during his Residence at LIEGE.

IN AN APPENDIX IS GIVEN

An ACCOUNT of a HOUSE fitted up at LIEGE, for the
Reception of the ENGLISH only ; with a TABLE of the
EXPENCE of the different Accommodations.

Also a DETAIL of the best and most approved INNS upon the
ROAD to LIEGE, either by the ROUT of CALAIS or OSTEND.

By EDMUND MARSHALL, M. A.
Vicar of CHARING in KENT.

*Nec quia desperes invicti membra Glyconis
Nodosâ corpus nolis prohibere chiragrâ?* HOR.

The SECOND EDITION.

CANTERBURY:

Printed for the AUTHOR, by SIMMONS and KIRKBY.
Sold at the King's Arms Printing-office, Canterbury ; and by
W. GRIFFIN, Bookseller, in Catharine-street in the Strand,

MDCCLXX.

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INTRODUCTION.

SEVERAL motives have induced me to offer to the public consideration the following sheets—The first and principal is—the benevolence and humanity I think due to that part of mankind; who are or may be afflicted with one of the most painful of all possible distempers—Convinc'd as I am; that I have myself already experienced a benefit scarcely credible from the Gout-powders of Dr. Le Fevre, the sympathetic feelings I have for the miseries of my fellow-sufferers, seem to demand of me, that I communicate to them, what I have been able to collect concerning this wonderful remedy; in order that they may be encouraged to make the same experiment, and, as I have not the least doubt, with the same success with myself—

Another motive is—the sacred regard I bear to truth—Since my return to England, as well as during my residence upon the Continent, several splendid circumstances I have heard concerning this important discovery, which I know to be—not true—

Exaggration may create disappointment, but will not produce conviction—It may even create a suspicion, that the belief, which begins to gain ground, that the secret of curing the Gout is at last obtain'd, has no foundation in reality, because some parts of the super-structure are overcharged—Facts may be misrepresented, or, as has been indeed the case, may be reported to have existed, when in truth their only existence was in the imagination of the reporter—This may arise, either from the indiscreet zeal of well-meaning friends, or the desire in which too many persons indulge themselves, of exciting admiration—

With a view to guard against the ill-effects, which a detection of any spurious anecdote, relative to the Liege-medicine, might have upon a manly and sensible mind, I have taken the trouble to procure, and lay before the public,

public, what I know, or at least believe to be real evidence in this interesting matter—

Three of the gouty-cases, herein contain'd, are the cases of Gentlemen of rank and fortune—one is the case of an ecclesiastic of character and estimation in the City of Liege—the two others—of persons of inferior rank indeed, but of fair reputation in that principality—I believe all of them as much above an intentional deception, as I am myself—

What I shall say concerning my own case, early as I am at present in my progression towards the cure I expect, I can safely affirm to be strictly true—But, at the same time, as in a point, not yet absolutely ascertained by a sufficient series of cases, it is possible, I may have been hitherto only agreeably deceived—*i.e.*—the Gout may return upon me again with its usual violence—my readers may be assur'd, that should it so be—should the fruit of all my hopes prove, in the end, to have been nothing but a fairy-dream, they shall not fail to have my recantation, upon my awaking—I will, with the same fidelity, in some of the public papers, state to them my disappointment, as I mean in the ensuing little

Pamphlet,

Pamphlet, to state my grounds of expectation, that I shall, in due course of time, be radically cur'd of the Gout—

But I have still a farther inducement, to make this publication—which I frankly confess is—to contribute what in my power to extend the fame of a very worthy and able Physician, hitherto little known beyond the limits of the country in which he resides, but whose merits justly entitle him to the reward and applause of every Arthritic throughout the known world—I shall ever take pride to myself in acknowledging high obligations to Dr. Le Fevre—Stranger as I was to him, I experienced from this Gentleman, at once the skill of a Physician, and the generous openness of a friend—

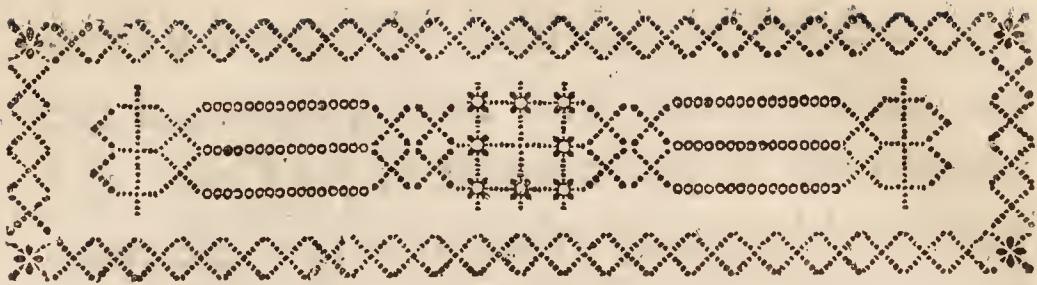
Lastly—from the honest indignation I conceive at the impositions to, which the Liegois are so remarkably prone, and which, to my certain knowledge, they have in full meditation to practise upon my countrymen, who may take houses or lodgings at Liege for the necessary time employed in taking the Gout-powders, I could wish to put them in a method to avoid becoming

becoming the dupes of so illiberal a combination—

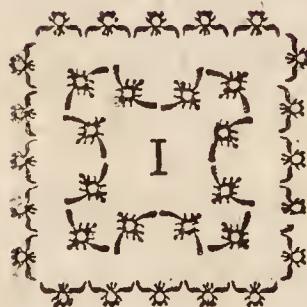
To this end I have subjoined, in an Appendix, a plan, concerted for their use alone, and offered to the acceptance of the English, by a person; whom I know to be influenced, in his proposals, by no one so did view whatever—Indeed I believe him incapable of it—This Gentleman's name is Le Febure—He is a native of France—but has, for many years, been settled at Liege, where he is by occupation a Wine-merchant, and is, at present, at the head of a new manufacture of Porcelain—In this honest and most obliging Merchant's house, which is capable of receiving at least six Gentlemen and their servants, Mr. Kettisbury of the County of Northumberland, his family, myself and servant, were commodiously and reasonably lodged—Under this plan of Monsieur Le Febure, the reader will find a table of the expence for diet and lodging of a single Gentleman with only one domestic, or any more extensive accommodation according to the same moderate and equitable proportion—I have thought proper to annex to this, in order to smooth the way as much as possible to every future gouty English-traveller,

veller, a detail of the best Inns upon the road, by whatever rout his inclination, or his convenience, may induce him to make his journey to Liege—

Having said thus much of my motives, which candor, I am sure, must allow to be laudable—I must be indulged one word in behalf of myself.—It pains me when I look over this little performance, to observe how ill it is executed—and in particular am I sensible, how offensive may appear the egotisms which prevail throughout it—This it was almost impossible to avoid—I can only ask the reader's pardon for the violence perhaps offer'd to his delicacy by it—and to assure him, that I offer infinitely more to my own—Conscious, that I risk the loss of reputation, by a Pamphlet with my name affixed to it—I confess honestly, that I pretend to raise none upon it—and I can very safely declare I write not for profit—This confession and declaration will, I hope, a little plead for me with my critical gouty-brethren, and ensure me some grace from them—It also may perhaps entitle me to some favour at the hands of those who are—Critics by Profession—



S O M E
A C C O U N T
O F T H E
LIEGE MEDICINE
— F O R — T H E
G O U T, &c.



T is now little more than two years since a Treatise was published, by the late Dr. Warner, entitled, A Full and Plain Account of the Gout—This Treatise, upon the whole, did the Doctor a great deal of credit—but, I own, I never could digest a certain part of the title-page—I even then flattered myself, that an auspicious moment might arise, when I might have right to

A

dispute

dispute the point with him—The worthy Doctor, not contented with having favoured the world with a *full* account of the Gout, and permitted his gouty readers to draw inferences for themselves, was pleased to draw a very adventurous, and I am sure a very uncomfortable one, for them—He told us, that from his book, *would be clearly seen the folly or baseness of all pretenders to the cure of the Gout.*—

There is nothing like it, when one draws a literary sword, to take care that it carry two edges—with the one, to punish the temerity of those who go before us; with the other, of those who may come after us.—

This was exactly the case with Dr. Warner—He thought proper to arrange under one or other of those *very reputable classes*, of *folly* or *baseness*, every pursuit, previous to the age in which he lived, or subsequent to it, after a specific for the Gout—Nay, so careful was the Doctor, lest the gouty world should not have prejudices enough of their own, that in the above assertion—which however could not dispossess me of at least a pleasing illusion to the contrary—he provides them with a very powerful one—He dignifies, with the epithet of *Pretender*, every ingenious gentleman of the faculty

faculty of physic, who friendly, to the ease and happiness of mankind, and having possessed himself of a secret, whether the result of study or accident, it matters not, should offer it to their service, as a cure of one of the most painful and afflictive of all human disorders—

I mean not to bear too hard upon the memory of the late Dr. Warner—buried be his prejudices concerning this point—*the incurability of the Gout*—in the same grave with himself—his benevolent labours for it's relief—be they long and gratefully remembered by every gouty-brother—

One more remark upon the Doctor's book, and I no more disturb the sacred ashes of the dead—In the heat of this learned ecclesiastic's zeal against every possible pretender to the cure of the Gout, he overlooked the side-blow he struck by it at the reputation of his favourite Sydenham, whom at the opening of his Treatise, he so justly stiles IMMORTAL—either by design or inadvertence, it seems to have passed him by, that the same venerable father of physic, while with his wonted candor, he confesses, that after more than thirty years experience

rience of the Gout in his own case, he had not been able to discover a specific for it; yet * does he deliver it as his opinion, that in some future time it probably might be discovered— So far from throwing at random, like Dr. Warner, any stigma upon the painful and laborious enquirers after this grand arcanum— Sydenham, himself the illustrious inventor of the cool regimen in the Small-pox, encourages the Professors of Physic, to investigate a remedy for the radical cure of the Gout—

It was under the sanction of the authority of this great man, whom Boerhaave, much to

* Note, from Sydenham's Treatise on the Gout, page 383 of his Works—“ Yet a perfect cure, whereby a man may be freed from a disposition to this disease, yet lies hid; and I know not when, or by whom, it will be brought to light—Yet notwithstanding, I hope that I have been some way beneficial to mankind by this Treatise, by faithfully discovering those rocks, whereon I, and many others, have been wrecked, and moreover, the best method I have yet known, and I promise no more, *tho' by my long course of thinking, I am induced to believe,* that such a remedy will be some time found out; and if ever it happens to be, it will expose the ignorance of the dogmatical; and then it will appear, how much they are deceived in the knowledge of the essences of diseases and the medicines they use for them.”

his honour, entitles the Prince of English Physicians, that I had always presumed to entertain a belief, that the Gout was not incurable—and much consolation, I must confess, has this belief, (suppported indeed and strengthened, by a firm reliance in the divine bénignity) administered to me in many a severe paroxism of this most cruel distemper—and even under not a few disappointments in the several experiments I have made, sometimes upon my own judgement, sometimes upon the judgement of others, to cure myself of my disorder—

For, capable as I hope I am, of bearing pain with as manly a fortitude as the hardiest gouty Veteran ; I have, however, acted in my own regard conformably to my system—At one time, I have treated the Gout as an inflammation, and tried the effect of bleeding—at another, I have considered it, as being possibly the result of an over-prevalence of certain humours in the stomach or intestines, and have tried the effect of purging—I have endeavoured to expel the gouty matter through the pores of the skin by sudorifics—and I have undergone a course of soap medicines, in hopes of finding a cure in the diuretic-method—and always

always with equal success, that is to say, without producing in myself the least alteration for the better—With respect to the popular topical applications—the rye plaster and the bootikyn—I think myself much indebted to them—From my own experience of both, I may venture to pronounce they are safe, and alleviative of pain—the latter appears to me the more preferable—as it produces the same effect, and is, at the same time, more pleasant and cleanly than the former—

Disappointed, but not defeated, I had still gone on to cherish hopes, that a specific for the Gout would one day be discovered—In one point I had profited by my several experiments—I had at least convinced myself by them, as my own family can bear me witness, and by the different authors I had read upon the subject, that any medicine, happily adapted to the cure of this most dreadful disorder, would most probably operate, by augmenting the secretions of sweat and urine—

It may here be naturally demanded of me, whether, buoyed up as I appear to have been by expectations so unusually sanguine, I have made trial of any of the celebrated Gout-medicines

dicines—such as the Portland Powders—the Swiss Tincture--Mr. Drake's Remedy, &c. &c. &c.—or Dr. Hill's truly innocent Elixir of Bardana—I confess I never have—certain objections, of no importance in this place, had deterred, but not determined me against them—Far, very far from censuring, I honour these Gentlemen for their laudable attempts in the cause of humanity—and whoever has failed in his researches into the cause and cure of the Gout, has ever, with me, carried this applause, that—*magnis tamen excidit ausis*—

Thus happily prepossessed in behalf of every pretender to the cure of the Gout—the gouty-reader, for to such alone I write, will not be surprized that I gave a very ready attention to the first accounts I received of Dr. Le Fevre's remedy—

Vague and uncertain, as was the report communicated to me by a very worthy Roman Catholic neighbour, in August 1769—it so agreeably flattered my favourite system—the curability of the Gout—that I entreated him to procure me a more circumstantial and authentic intelligence—this I was sensible he could easily do from his learned friend, to whom

whom I am proud to profess the highest obligations—Mr. Booth, Professor of Divinity in the College of English Jesuits at Liege—

From this Gentleman, consistently with the humanity of his character, in as little time as is employed in the passing and repassing of a letter between England and Germany, I was favoured with so clear and full a testimony of the case and cure of Mr. Robinson, Chaplain of the Convent of English Nuns, that I had not an hesitation concerning the expediency of a journey to Liege—This journey is, for the present, a matter of necessity to such as would take this noble remedy, the discoverer of it having, for many wise reasons, determined not to obtrude himself upon the gouty public of this country, until the success of his powders has been ascertained by such a series of cases in his own, as to render it no longer problematical, whether the Gout be capable of being radically cured—

Hence has it been, that the title to this little publication runs—*The Evidence only of the Probability, &c.* I am myself abundantly convinced, that more than one person has already been absolutely cured of the Gout, by

Doctor

Doctor Le Fevré, and that other gouty patients are in the fairest state of progression towards the same happy termination of their disorder—This was a conviction sufficient for me—but this amounts not to demonstration—the Liege medicine, it may be said, may succeed in some constitutions, but may fail in future experiments—I allow the force of the argument—it must be acknowledg'd the system is not yet complete—it needs the confirmation of time—The foundation upon which I build my hopes, may, after all, prove fallacious—I trust it will not—but should, even in the event, my expectations appear to have been too warm, every gouty brother, who may do me the honour to read my Pamphlet, will, I hope, give me some little credit for having taken the pains to collect and exhibit to him a much higher degree of evidence, of the chances of his receiving a complete cure, than was exhibited to me, when I adventured to become the first English patient, that ever made a journey to Germany, for the express purpose of taking the Gout Powders.

A remark or two, so exceedingly obvious, offer themselves at this place—that I must beg the reader's patience, while I get fairly rid of

them—It may appear extraordinary, that the eclat of a medicine, now pretty generally known to have been administered for some years past in a very principal City in Germany, and that City the grand thoroughfare of the English to Spa, should not have spread itself to this country, till the Autumn of the last year--But it should be considered—that gouty cases upon the continent are far less frequent than in England—that the persons—(except indeed Mr. Robinson) to whom Monsieur Le Fevre had administer'd his medicine in 1767 and 1768, were of inferior rank—that the English pass hastily thro' Liege, and hold little communication with the inhabitants—and that the rumour of one English Gentleman's having been a patient of a foreign Physician, weighs more with an Englishman—such is our amiable partiality for our countrymen—than the cases of fifty Foreigners—To the truth of this, if my information be true*, a certain Noble Lord can bear witness—A con-

* My information was from the person himself, who, as he assur'd me, communicated to his Lordship his own case—This Gentleman I believe does not write English very perfectly, so that it is possible his letter might convey an intelligence not altogether so clear and consistent, as might have been wished—

inderable time since, did his Lordship receive from Liege—such is even in Germany the reverence of his virtues—a narrative of Mr. Robinson's case and cure—but he took no notice of either the letter-writer or letter—Should this recall the circumstance to my Lord ——'s memory, it would give me the highest satisfaction, were he now to pay more attention to it—for happy should I be, to see a Nobleman, who does so much honour to his country, restor'd, from a martyr'd state of the Gout, to the full and perfect enjoyment of his health—

The other remark is—that it may appear an act of temerity and precipitation to have embarked for Germany, to take a new medicine for the Gout, without having submitted the case and cure of Mr. Robinson, together with my own, to the consideration of some eminent English Physician—It is very true I did not—an opinion had been adopted by so many of the most able and ingenious men of the profession, that the Gout was a remedy and not a distemper, that I must have naturally expected to have had my design treated as visionary and romantic—and in good truth, I had too little reason to be so enamour'd of the Gout, as to expose myself to the hazard of

any dissuasives from the trial of a probable experiment to get cured of it—

And besides—from certain very serious symptoms attending a severe fit, which I had in August last, I was induced to think, that the risk, if there were any, was of little consequence —Life itself was apparently brought into danger, by the frequency and severity of the gouty attacks—and even, during the pendency of a consummation I rather wish'd than dreaded, I had the most uncomfortable prospect, from the chalky excrescences which had been the relics of my late fits, of being reduced, at an early time of life, into an absolute cretaceous substance.

As I have taken the liberty in the preceding pages, to offer frankly to the consideration of the gouty readers, my own inducements so readily to listen to the pretensions of Dr. Le Fevre—may I beg their indulgence, for continuing in the following sheets, to make use of the first person, and in the same manner to state my evidence of the probability, that a specific is at length obtained for the Gout, as I have stated my own motives for going to Liege to collect it?—

I have said, that it was in consequence of Mr. Booth's letter, containing, according to my apprehension, an authentic testimony of the safety and certainty of the Liege medicine, that I had taken my resolution—the result was, that in less than a fortnight after the receipt of it, I had performed my little journey, and was arrived in that City—

I received here, the afternoon of my arrival, an ample and very particular confirmation, from the mouth of Mr. Robinson, of every circumstance recited in Mr. Booth's narrative—By this Gentleman I was introduced to Dr. Le Fevre—

I can with the strictest truth affirm, that in a long and very interesting conversation I held with the Doctor—upon the subject of the Gout and his mode of treating it—I received such entire satisfaction, that if I had till that time harboured any latent little doubts, they were all dispelled—and I never engaged in any action of my life with more pleasure, or confidence of the probable success of it, than in resigning myself up to the medical care and conduct of this Physician—

This Gentleman—the sole proprietor and discoverer of this most extraordinary remedy—tho' he is married into a Liégois family, and has been a considerable time settled at Liege, is himself a native of Douay in Flanders—In the University of that City he received his education, and accomplished himself for the profession of Physic—At an age, early for an English Physician to rise into fame and eminence, the reputation of Mons. Le Fevre was so well establish'd at Liege, that he was appointed one of the Physicians to the late Prince, the Cardinal of Bavaria—He is now only Thirty-eight—and it is about five years, since he first made the declaration, that he had discovered a medicine capable of curing the most inveterate Gout—

My friend Le Fevre, for by that name I must distinguish him, will excuse me that I bear this public testimony to his qualities—I had rather offend his modesty, than violate the laws of justice—These demand of me to acquaint the reader, that at my first interview with him, I perceiv'd in this Gentleman's manner and conversation, sufficient to attract my attention, and very much to prejudice me in his favour—

In a more intimate acquaintance with him, I have found every thing to engage and perpetuate my esteem—Without a spark of their grimace, his deportment and address, is that of a well-bred Frenchman—modest and unassuming upon general subjects—upon physical ones he is cool—clear—explanatory—and at the same time decisive—In particular—in speaking upon the nature, and curability of the Gout, he delivers himself with that manly firmness as to convince the hearer, that the Doctor is himself assured, upon the most solid grounds, of the invincible efficacy of his medicine—Of this there cannot perhaps be a more satisfactory proof, than the patience and moderation of Le Fevre in continuing at Liege, when it is most apparent he might enrich himself, with considerably more rapidity, by making a tour to England—Not that he has any repugnancy to the journey, but he defers it, I give his own words, till the success of his manner of treating the Gout has been ascertained by a sufficient number of unobjectionable experiments—after which, I have his authority, to acquaint the Gouty Public of this country, that if he be respectfully invited, he will very readily make a visit to, and administer his medicine in England.

Before I speak of Dr. Le Fevre's medicine—the manner of administering it—its effects—and the regimen to be observed during the taking of it—I must mention a prejudice which may probably be entertained against it—not very easily removeable—and which is worse—a prejudice that I shrewdly suspect, the Doctor himself, with all his good qualities, has too much of the wisdom of this world, to be in any great haste at present to remove—namely—that what the Gout medicine is—is likely to remain a profound secret—what the constituent parts are, he locks up carefully in his own breast—and it seems it is not conformable to the regular practice of physic, to make any reserve or concealment of the ingredients of a prescription—How far a contrary conduct may be justifiable, I take not upon me to determine—in my own opinion I think it is—That it agrees not with the system observed by the College of English Physicians, I well know—but still I do not apprehend it sufficient to rank a man, or his medicine, under the predicament of quackery and empiricism, because in a single instance he takes the liberty of deviating from a system—I do suppose it did not empty the mind of Dr. James, of that treasure of medical knowledge, which he is known to possess,

possess, because he invented and kept to his own private profit and advantage, a very noble medicine for the cure of Fevers, without making the College acquainted with the secret—In like manner will the physical skill and abilities of my friend Le Fevre, in other parts of his practice, receive not the least diminution, because he has had the good fortune and ingenuity to find out a remedy for the cure of the Gout, of which he avails himself to his own peculiar and sole emolument—and which if it goes on to succeed, as it hitherto has done, will in a course of not very many years, render him one of the richest men in Europe—

Dr. Le Fevre's Gout medicine, of which I am now to give a description, is a white and almost tasteless powder—it is administered by the Dr. himself to his patients, at some hour of the morning, in the quantity of not quite a tea-spoonful—This dose is repeated for ten successive mornings—whether before or after breakfast is immaterial—and a glass of cold water, that has been boiled, is drank immediately after the powders, in order that every particle of the medicine may be conveyed into the stomach—The whole quantity necessary to be taken, consists of thirty doses—these are

divided into three courses—between each of which is an interval of twenty days—that is—to the first course of ten days, succeeds an interval of twenty days, during which time you take no medicine, and live according to your usual manner, avoiding only excess of any kind—In like manner does the same space of twenty days intervene, between the second and third course, the last dose of which completes the quantity of medicine requisite to be taken by every gouty person, let the case be ever so inveterate, for the radical cure of his disorder.

The regimen to be observed, during each course of the Powders, is by no means rigid or difficult—nor does it consist in any restraint, but what a moderately temperate man may submit to, without much violence to his usual manner of living—Dr. Le Fevre requires his patients, during the ten days they are taking the medicine, to abstain only from acids, salted meats, high-seasoned dishes, and legumes; to drink no wines unmixed with water, and not to exceed the quantity of a pint of wine thus diluted, during the day—The wines he recommends are the red-wines of France, and the Rhenish or Moselle wines—strictly forbidding the highly-fermented white wines of Chmpagne—the

strong and heating wines of Spain, Portugal; and the Island of Madeira—all sorts of liqueurs—and every article of diet, either liquid or solid, in any remarkable degree heating or inflammatory——

I have already, I believe, intimated, that the Gout powders operate, by augmenting the secretion of sweat and urine—but this augmentation, as may easily be imagined, varies according to the different constitutions of the patients—In some persons, as will be seen under their respective cases, who have been of a sudorific habit, the evacuations by sweat are represented to have been copious, and abundant—in others they have not been so profuse—and in some scarcely any at all—but in all, with whom I have conversed, there has been an evident increase in the discharge of urine—and in one patient, the urine made, during the time of taking the powders, was unusually thick and turbid, and abounding with a glairy matter.

With regard to the operation of the powders in my own case—as it early entered into my design to collect, as far as I was able, for the satisfaction of my gouty brethren, every circumstance

circumstance relative to the Liege medicine, that might be interesting or important—I was of course, peculiarly attentive to every, the minutest change wrought in myself, which might fairly be supposed to result from the action of the Powders, during the whole time of the three courses—so as to be able to speak, with accuracy and precision, of the effects in my own case and constitution, of this very amazing remedy—

I have hinted in some of the preceding pages, in justification of the ardor with which I embraced the resolution of taking Dr. Le Fevre's remedy, that my last fit of the Gout, in the months of July and August 1769, had been attended with some alarming circumstances—It may be necessary therefore, before I come to speak of any of the curative indications of the Gout powders in myself, to state my own case, which I shall do as fairly, as I shall—the physical operations of the medicine, and any other perceivable effects, upon which I build my hopes, that in the course of eighteen or twenty months, the time allotted for the final eradication of the gouty humour, I shall find myself completely cured of the Gout—

At so early an age as twenty-nine, in the summer of the year 1762, I had the first regular attack of the Gout—I might have had before that period slight gouty dispositions—but they were too insignificant to entitle me to the dignity of being a gouty subject—Whether I am indebted for this distinction to any hereditary right, or merely to acquisition, I will not pretend exactly to ascertain—probably to both causes—My Father has now had the honour of an inveterate Gout near forty years, and it is not unlikely but I may have myself accelerated the maturity of the inherent gouty matter, by living rather too freely in the juvenile years of my life—

Let this be as it may—the first fit, though it was confined only to the right hand, was so exceedingly severe, that the joint of the wrist has continued enlarged, and the hand in a certain degree stiff and swelled till very lately—For the first three years the gouty fits were neither so frequent or so violent, as they afterwards became—

I had seldom more than two, or at the most, three returns of the disorder in the course of the year—The parts affected were only the right

right hand and both feet; and in the intervals of the fits, the latter so well recovered their tone, that I could walk with little or no perceptible lameness—But for the last four years the fury of this cruel distemper had increased to a very considerable height—insomuch—that I never escaped four periodical attacks in every year, during each of which , every part of me almost, except my head, has been the subject of the most exquisite torture--Had the duration of the gouty fits been proportionate to their severity, nature must have sunk exhausted under them—I was seldom, it is true, confin'd to the house above three weeks—but in this space I have experienced the Gout in nearly all its varieties—generally for the last two or three years, not a fit has terminated, without the Gout's having diffused itself over both feet —both knees—my two hands—the elbows—my back and shoulders—breast—and not unfrequently my stomach—Repeated and violent attacks in my feet had so enfeebled the ankle and instep-joints, that I can with great truth affirm, that for the three last years I have been at no time able to walk without a very apparent lameness and a certain degree of pain—I have more than once had the Gout in my throat—the organs of articulation have been affected

affected by it—several of my joints have been enlarged—I have gouty excrescences in several parts of me—and at the close of the last tremendous fit in July 1769, after the entire cessation of the gouty pains, I had the utmost reasons to apprehend the coming on of a *Coma-vigil*—an almost unconquerable wakefulness having succeeded the evacuation of the gouty humour by its usual channels, imputable to no other cause, that I can assign, unless to some new variety of this intricate and hitherto inexplicable disorder—

It was in this infirm, and in some degree crippled state, that I presented myself in September last to Dr. Le Fevre—and I commenced taking his Powders the day after my first interview with him—I cannot with any certainty affirm that during the first course, consisting as I have before observed of ten successive doses, I perceived the medicine to operate by any evacuation whatsoever—neither was I sensible of any material alteration in the state of my disorder, excepting that in the beginning of the course I had a slight gouty attack in my left elbow, which contrary to the general nature of my Gout, spread itself to none of the adjacent parts, but after con-

fining

fining itself, without any considerable pain, for three days, to that single articulation, disappear'd, leaving the part affected at full liberty.

At about the third or fourth day, of the interval succeeding the first course, I began to perceive a very evident increase in the secretion of urine ; this has continued with a very trifling variation to sometimes a greater, sometimes a less quantity, nearly in the proportion of three to two, to the present moment—With regard to the other evacuation, by which the gouty patient is to expect this medicine also to operate, that of perspiration, I had experienced not any very perceptible difference —neither have I hitherto, either during the hours of repose, or in the day time, except upon exercise, been sensible of any such augmented perspiration, as is produced by any of the usual sudorifics—I have reason indeed to believe, that in consequence of any brisk motion, either of riding or walking, first a gentle glow, and immediately afterwards an eruption of sweat, more quickly supervenes, than was heretofore customary with me—And in respect of insensible perspiration, I have not the least doubt, but the Powders have acted upon me with considerable force—

For

—For to this cause alone can I impute, that with a better appetite and digestion, and with all the animal functions in a more perfect and healthy state than they have been for many years past, my constitutional tendency to grow corpulent, for the present at least, is very comfortably suspended—

At the expiration of the usual interval, during which the gouty patient is at liberty to return to his ordinary mode of living, taking care to observe temperance and regularity, I resumed the taking of the Powders — Towards the conclusion of the second course, all other circumstances continuing the same, I had an attack of the Gout in my left knee, at the time of going to-bed, sufficiently smart to make me expect the approach of a regular fit, accompanied, as my fits generally have been, with a long train of dreadful symptoms—But in this I was agreeably disappointed—For though the part grew stiff, swell'd, and became inflamed—yet did it deprive me of very little rest, and the next morning was restor'd to its former pliancy—

I have omitted I believe to mention, that walking every day, for as long a time as the

person can bear it, makes part of the regimen prescribed by Dr. Le Fevre to his Gout-patients—This I could gladly have dispensed with—for though a certain sanguine advocate for the Liege medicine, is too apt to flatter his friends, that after the first five days of taking it, they shall walk almost as well as himself, with which hopes he flattered me—yet were my feet and ankles little, if at all, amended at the end of the second course—I submitted pretty regularly to the discipline of walking—but truth compels me to acknowledge, that it continued, even to the last dose of the Powders, to be a real penance to me—neither during the whole time of my residence at Liege—however highly I reverence this noble medicine—was I able to disguise the lameness with which I was affected—nor to walk without pain—At the commencement of the last course, which was, as before, at the distance of twenty days from the termination of the former, I was again alarm'd with a very sharp attack of the Gout in the knuckle of the fore-finger of my right hand—I expected, as I had in the instances above-mentioned, that this would be the prelude to a general fit—more especially as my right hand, from the first time of its being goutily affected, had

been the subject of many a violent paroxysm—and that the Gout had often begun its operations in that particular member, and from thence had diffused itself over my whole frame—

But here again—not more to my own very great satisfaction, than to the honour of Dr. Le Fevre's prognostication—was I mistaken—When I shewed him my hand—at the usual time of his coming to administer the Powders—without taking any notice of my dejection, which I could not conceal—Did I not tell you, says he, my good friend, at our first interview—that the very peculiar safety of my remedy, consisted in this circumstance, that it did not lock up or repel the Gout; but, on the contrary, that it would, for a course of twenty or twenty-two months, return into all the parts it had been accustomed to attack—with this difference only—that in every future fit of the Gout, the duration as well as the pain of the disorder would be diminished?—*voici donc une autre example de la vérité des mes prédictions!*—but, continued he—Take courage, Sir, be assured the Gout will rest in the part where it now is, nor even spread itself to any of the adjoining articulations—

This

This, to my amazement, was strictly verified—the Gout remained in the joint of my fore-finger, as Le Fevre had foretold it would—and after giving me a considerable deal of pain, but far less acute than what I had heretofore experienced, during the course of fifty or sixty hours that this little fit lasted, it went entirely off—

These are the most material circumstances, to which I was attentive during my three several courses of the Liege-medicine—

I have only to add, in which declaration each Gouty-patient, with whom I made it my business to converse upon the subject, has severally concurred with me, with regard to the same circumstances in themselves—that my appetite and digestion had scarce ever been so good, as throughout the whole time of taking Dr. Le Fevre's Powders—At the same time, so exceedingly subtil has been the mode of operation of this extraordinary remedy in my particular case—that though I have the highest reason to be convinced, that I have received the most singular benefit from it—yet was I never sensible, at the moment of taking, or any little time afterwards, of the least

least emotion occasioned by it, upon its arrival in the stomach — Notwithstanding which, so powerful are its effects upon that very capital part of the animal machine, that I not only became very sensible of the most salutary alteration in it, having no longer any of those acid eructations, to which gouty men are subject—but the medicine has continued so successfully to correct and repair the injury derived upon the faculties of the stomach by the incursions of the Gout, that I can with truth affirm, I have scarcely ever experienced any disagreement from any thing I have eat or drank, from the time of the 5th or 6th dose of the first course of the Powders, to the present hour —

However amended in this particular, a regard nevertheless to truth, demands of me to acknowledge, that in another article I had received so little benefit, as to be somewhat discontented — For I could not but perceive, at almost the conclusion of the last course, that I was very little improv'd in my walking, or amended of the lameness in my feet — Insomuch — that I had come to a resolution, had the Doctor consented to have administered them, to have taken a fourth course of the Powders

Powders—But this worthy and able Physician, with a firmness, which places out of all doubt the certainty of his full and entire knowledge of the virtues and properties of his medicine, refused it absolutely—declaring in these words—*c'est absolument inutile*—at the same time assuring me—that it gave him not the least chagrin to find the lameness in my feet no more abated—that I might rest satisfied, I carried the curative means of the Gout as infallibly about me, as if I had taken a fourth course—of which I should be convinc'd in May 1771—and that in the mean time, I might be perfectly easy with regard to the debility of the ankle and instep-joints—for that, in a little time, they would recover their due tone, and that I should once more know the satisfaction of walking without either pain or lameness—

Of the truth of this assertion, I have since my return to England, I thank God, had abundant reason to be convinced—It was upon the road, between Ghent and Tournay, that I first became indubitably sensible of a pliancy in my feet, to which I had long been a stranger—I had alighted from the carriage, whilst it stopped to refresh the horses, and had walked

walked on with my servant upon the *Pavé*, in obedience to that part of the Doctor's regimens, which prescribes walking every day—The alteration was evident enough to attract the notice of my servant—In this point, from that time to the present, I am so happy as to have been in a constant state of improvement —insomuch—that though I pretend not to intimate, that I am at no times sensible of some little pain in walking—yet am I able to take this very necessary exercise with a freedom and celerity as extraordinary and unexpected by my acquaintance, as in truth it is by myself—

I have, since my arrival in England, been visited with two gouty attacks—the one happened in the last week of December, the other in January; in one or other of which months I have not escaped a severe fit of the Gout for some years past—The seat of the former was my left elbow—It continued fixed to that part for three days, and then disappeared—My left foot was the subject of the latter attack—it swell'd—was slightly inflam'd—but the pain so trifling, as to render the use of even flannel unnecessary—I was, however, lame, for near a week, after which, the part

affected became, I think, founder than it was before—

Conformably to Dr. Le Fevre's assurances, I continue to be very frequently sensible of the *des lancemens de la Goutte*—or little gouty throbings—indeed, in every one of the parts, which have been heretofore obnoxious to the visitations of this dreadful malady—I not unusually am awaken'd by an effort of the Gout to make, as heretofore, a lodgment in some hapless member, a hand or a foot—but it is only an effort—for this noble and amazing remedy seems always upon its guard to resist any violent incursion—if it permits its continuation for any little time, it is only for a little time—and it serves effectually to evince, that the gouty disorder is not concealed or imprisoned for a few months only, to break out again afresh with redoubled violence—on the contrary, as is above observed—I have daily proofs of the existence of the Gout still in my constitution—but it is an existence so dwindled from what it once was, that I must confess, I have reason to entertain the most flattering hopes, that by the time appointed me by my friend Le Fevre, who has hitherto deceived me in no one prediction,

dition, my Gout will receive its total anni-
hilation—

Having thus stated my own Gout-case—
together with the effects of the Powders in it,
so far as their operation has hitherto gone—I
say as far as it has hitherto gone—for I sup-
pose the gouty reader may have already col-
lected—from the mention which has been
made, that the space of eighteen or twenty
months, from the date of the last dose, is re-
quired to effectuate a complete cure—that it
is one of the strange properties, of this won-
derful remedy of Dr. Le Fevre's, to remain
in the human body, and to continue acting
upon the humours of it, a very long time
after any farther administration of it has to-
tally ceased—The solution the Doctor himself
gives of this quality of his medicine, I shall
attempt to give at the close of my Pamphlet—
I am now to proceed to offer to the reader's
consideration, what further evidence I have
been able to procure, concerning the proba-
bility there is, that these Powders of Dr. Le
Fevre, which have given occasion to this little
account of them, do actually contain a spe-
cific for the Gout—

It is extremely obvious, that the only evidence, of which an affair of this kind is capable, must consist in the testimony of those, to whom the Gout-powders have been administer'd—again—is it equally apparent—that this testimony will carry more or less weight with it—in proportion to the number of cases which it comprehends—their inveteracy—and the length of time which has elapsed, since the parties who are the subjects of these cases, first begun to take, if I may so speak, this progressive species of remedy—I need not take notice, that this evidence will be gaining strength every day; or otherwise, by the entire failure of the powders, in two or three capital instances, will lose the greater part, if not all its force—

Hitherto, in the happy effects of the Liege medicine in gouty cases, there has not been one failure, that has come to my knowledge—that is, the Gout-remedy has been administer'd to no one person, who has not, in due course of time, received considerable benefit from it—And I can assure my readers, that I made the most strict enquiry into this matter, during my residence at Liege—and that—for my own satisfaction no less than theirs—For
very

very material it was to me, to be particularly inquisitive into the history of every gouty-adventurer, who had preceded, or who were companions with me in the same enterprize—otherwise I must have return'd to England at the conclusion of the last course of the Powders, with this only consolation, that I carried back with me the asseveration of a foreign Physician—that at the distance of twenty months I should find myself cur'd—

For these reasons, as it happened, that I was capable of speaking French with tolerable fluency, I made it my business to get introduced to, or have introduced to me, every person, English or Foreigner, except two *, whose cases I have been obliged to receive upon report, and which are therefore omitted in this account, who had been or were the Doctor's patients, at the time I was myself—

Mr. Robinson—whose case, as he has over passed the time requisite for the completion of

* The name of one of these persons is Vanspassen—she is the wife of a Colour-merchant—I was inform'd, that it was five years since she took the Powders—that she was old, and had surviv'd her understanding—The other was a Peasant in a country village—

his

his cure, has an undoubted right to the first place in the following list—is a native of Italy —by descent he is an Englishman—and is a Secular Priest of the Church of Rome, being Confessor to the Convent of English Nuns in the City of Liege—His age, at the time of my acquaintance with him, was about fifty-six.

In this Gentleman, who is of a sanguine and biliary temperament, an hereditary Gout made its first appearance about sixteen years since—From that period, to the time of his taking the Powders, he has regularly had two fits every year—the one in Winter, the other in Summer—These fits generally lasted from five to eight weeks, and were, by Mr. Robinson's description, extremely violent—the seat of the disorder was the feet—and sometimes, but in a considerably less degree, both hands—and it was generally, at least three or four weeks after the termination of each fit, before he recovered the full use of his legs—

But there was a symptom, of the most dangerous and alarming nature, that usually accompanied Mr. Robinson's fits of the Gout —this was a pain in his head so acute, as to render the torture of it, at least equal to his other

other pains—And to these gouty head-achs; but not with the same violence, he was extremely subject, during the intervals of the fits—Of late years, his constitution, as he assured me, was become so strongly impregnated with the disorder—that wine, drank in the most moderate quantity, or the exposing himself to any damp—or humid air, scarcely ever fail'd to affect him with gouty sensations—

It was some time in the month of July 1769, immediately after having been laid up eight weeks with a violent fit, that he submitted to take Dr. Le Fevre's remedy—

I say submitted—because such was the prejudice, at that time at Liege, against this newly-discover'd medicine, that it was imagined to be no less, than the hazard of an early death, the consenting to a course of the Gout-powders—

The event, however, with Mr. Robinson, proved extremely opposite to the public expectation—He soon became sensible of the very salutary effects of this excellent remedy—In the place of remaining, as usual, a fortnight or three weeks, under an inability of walking—

walking--at the fourth dose of the Powders, he was capable of walking about his apartment, and even to strike his foot forcibly against the ground--and the pains in his head, the general accompaniment of his fits, entirely disappear'd--During the first course, however, the Powders operated as upon myself, by no perceivable evacuation—

In the second course of the Powders--their operation by sweat manifested itself very sensibly--and, in a particular instance, very remarkably--One of the feet of Mr. Robinson had been considerably more roughly treated, by the Gout, than the other, so as to have had its articulations not a little injured--and this foot became the subject of the most profuse perspiration, whilst the other perspired not at all--the result was--it recovered its original pliancy--But in general, and for the space of many months, Dr. Le Fevre's remedy augmented the secretion of sweat, in this Gentleman, in a very eminent degree--in consequence of which--its conquest over the Gout, in this instance, seems to have been more rapid than in that of any of the Doctor's patients (except of a Farrier to be hereafter with

mentioned) with whom I have conversed, concerning the effects of the Gout-powders—

For immediately, or very soon after the last course, it appears, from Mr. Robinson's testimony, that he was become so superior to all gouty impressions of any significance, that he has assur'd me, that without experiencing the least ill effects from it, he exposed himself, many times, to the danger of being wet-shod, by walking in dewy or marshy grounds—and that neither the quality nor quantity of wines he drank, any longer excited any gouty sensations in his stomach, or other parts, which, before the taking the Powders, were constantly liable to be affected by any variety of the sort, or the least excess in the quantity of wine drank—

Not that the gouty humour was lock'd up, or its flame only smother'd, in order to break out again with renewed violence—on the contrary—about the latter end of January 1768, this Gentleman had a regular fit in one foot, which, though the pain was exceedingly acute, yet, in the place of its wonted time of torture, continued only three days—so evidently

dently diminished was the force and vigour of this patient's Gout in so short a time!—

In the month of June following—about which time, according to the periodic return of his disorder, Mr. Robinson was to have expected his other annual visitation, he had nothing more than a few gouty pungencies every twenty-four hours, for the space of a month, which neither confined him to the house, nor put him to any inconvenience in walking—

In the month of December of the same year—the Gout was reduc'd to only a stiffness, in one of the wrists of this Gentleman, accompanied with a slight swelling without any pain, which, after making the same feeble attack upon the other wrist, disappear'd—nor visited him any more, according to my information, which I received from his own mouth, till the beginning of August 1769, when this villainous distemper seems to have made its last effort—its powers appearing then to have been so nearly exhausted, as to be capable only of producing a gouty sensation in his left foot, sufficiently smart to awaken him from his sleep, but whose duration was only five minutes—

Since

Since this time, Mr. Robinson has never once been affected by any one gouty symptom—the general state of his health is remarkably good—and I believe I may very safely assure the gouty reader, that, indifferently paced as is the City of Liege, there is scarcely an inhabitant in it, who walks better or quicker, than the Gentleman whose cure I have been relating—

The next person, in succession to Mr. Robinson, as a Gout-patient of Dr. Le Fevre, is one Mrs. Myers—This good woman, who is the wife of a Citizen of Liege, is however a native of England—She married from the family of Lord Sturton, in which she had lived, in the station of Housekeeper, many years—

From an ignorance concerning the Gout, natural to persons of her rank—Mrs. Myers appears to have had this distemper for several years, before it received its proper denomination—She is at present in her fiftieth year—and it is now about fifteen years since she became so universally affected with this cruel disorder, as to put it out of all doubt, under what particular class of human maladies to arrange it—Her fits were long and frequent—and not

a part of the body, which is ever visited by the Gout, has, in the case of this patient, been exempt from its attacks—

Her head and her stomach have often been very rudely treated by it—In the former, as well as in divers of the articulations, she will, probably, carry to her grave the never-failing signs of having once had the honour of being a martyr to the Gout—I mean—there are, in the external part of her hand, not less than a dozen chalky excrescences—which I have myself examined—

Of late years—Mrs. Myers's life, as she described it to me, has been one continued scene of gouty pains, or regular fits of the disease—her confinement to her bed or chamber, being sometimes not less than eight or nine months out of the twelve—

Her health, as it may easily be imagined, was reduc'd to the most deciduous state—and by the severity of the attack in her feet, she had very little prospect, but of being incurably lame—

It was under all these disadvantages—with one only favourable circumstance on her side—that of being naturally of a sound and robust constitution—that in the month of February 1768, Mrs. Myers sollicited Dr. Le Fevre to administer to her his remedy—to which he consented—It has been intimated, that the intervals, between the Gout-fits of this patient, had been for some years extremely short—It was in one of these short intervals, in the month of February 1768, that Mrs. Myers begun to take the Powders—So inveterate, however, was the gouty disposition in her constitution—that the efficacy of the first course prevented not the return of the Gout, in the month of March following, with the greatest violence—affecting her, as it generally did, universally—

It was in this condition, with the Gout in a greater or less degree constantly upon her, that the Doctor administer'd, to this good woman, three farther courses of his admirable Powders—He had been determin'd to this increase of the quantity of his remedy—as well by the exceeding stubbornness of Mrs. Myers's case—as by an observation, that from her natural inaptitude to sweat, the Powders, during the exhibition

bition of three courses of them, had not produc'd the least sensible operation—

At the end of the fourth course, succeeded the desired perspiration—by which evacuation almost solely, the medicine continued plentifully to display its effects, for the space of a twelve month—Correspondently to this manifest operation of the antidote, the poison of the disorder was every day diminish'd—

In the ensuing month of August—in the place of an almost continual Gout, a sharp fit in her hands and arms, with which Mrs. Myers was then attack'd, terminated in the space of three days—From which period, every articulation, which the Gout had render'd stiff, became successively more and more at liberty—and by the latter end of October, in the same year, she began to walk with very little perceptible lameness—From thence, till the October of the present year 1769, the time of my conversation with her, she has had only very slight returns of the Gout—no fit of any length or violence—and she hath become so perfectly restor'd to the use of her legs, that one afternoon of the last Summer she walk'd the full

full distance of eight miles with very little fatigue—

Mrs. Myers was so obliging, at my request, to wait upon me at my lodgings—and to give me the above relation of her case and cure—which she did with so much ingenuousness, and such an exceeding care of speaking too sanguinely, as conveyed to me the most entire conviction of the veracity of every part of her narrative—indeed if it needed any strengthening, her testimony of the dreadful condition to which the Gout had reduced her, has been confirm'd to me by Lord Sturton, and his sister, a Nun at the English Convent, to both whom, as having lived in their service, she hath been well known many years—

The gouty case, the circumstances of which I am next to relate—is so extremely capital—that I suppose it would have been impossible for Dr. Le Fevre, upon the most diligent search, to have found an example of the dire effects of the Gout, more singularly illustrative of the sovereign virtue of his specific—

It is the case of Laurence Yan, a Farrier, of the village of Hex, some three leagues distant

distant from the City of Liege—with this honest Liegois, in whose countenance I think is displayed an evident indication of the manliness and integrity of his heart, I had a long and particular conversation—and I have at present by me a memoir of his Gout, taken from the original in his own hand-writing—As the one corresponded exactly with the other—and there are many persons at Liege, who can attest the decrepid state to which the Gout had reduced him—I entertain not myself the least doubt, but the account, here recited, is strictly true—

It is now upwards of twenty years, since this person had the first attacks of the Gout—Laurence was at that time Farrier to a regiment of cavalry—and to the libertinism, as well as to the fatigues incidental to a military life, he very candidly ascribes his title to the Gout—

In like manner with Mrs. Myers, this Patient also had a variety of gouty fits, for several years before the disorder was properly ascertained—But after a certain time, the fury of the distemper, as in her case, arose to such a height, as to throw off all disguise, and appear

appear to be—what it really was—a confirm'd and inveterate Gout—

In the first stages of his disorder—though his fits were severe, they were neither very long, nor very frequent, and principally confined to his feet—But their duration, as well as violence, increased with his years to a very tremendous amount—For several years past he has been generally subject to three fits in the course of the year—each of which has confined him for two months—The Gout, according to his representation, had diffused itself over his whole frame, in the most terrible manner—Every symptom almost, with which this distemper is ever attended, accompanied the case of this unhappy man—He has experienced, he told me, the most violent fits of the Gout in his head and stomach—His nose and organs of articulation, have been affected with it in the most extraordinary manner—and the muscles of deglutition to such a degree, as nearly to incapacitate him from swallowing even liquids—By repeated attacks one foot was become almost absolutely inflexible—The Sciatica or Gout in his hip, added to the other ravage the Gout had made in his person, had

bent

bent him almost double—and his appetite and digestion were reduc'd to the last extremity—

Honest Laurence, any more than myself, had not submitted tamely to the notion, that the Gout was a remedy and not a disease—Nature revolted at the opinion—and all the little medical art, of which his profession had given him a smattering, was exerted, to prove, if possible, the fallacy of it—With these hopes, he informed me, he had with great resolution and perseverance tried the effects of bleeding—and a long course of a certain purgative medicine—but without success—The secret of curing the Gout consisted not in any of the methods he had made experiment of—and it remained for Dr. Le Fevre to convince him however, that the affair was not impracticable—To this Gentleman was he recommended, by a very amiable German Nobleman, Count Feldebroke, to whose horses he was Farrier—And in the month of February 1769—in the deplorable condition I have above described, at the instance of the Count—the Doctor undertook his cure—

Will the more refin'd gouty reader excuse me, if I present him with the honest Farrier's

own remarks upon the effects of the Liege-
medicine, literally translated from the manu-
script of his case, of which he favour'd me
with a copy?—To some it may perhaps be a
curiosity—to such I mean to address it—But
will the Farrier himself excuse me, that I
publish any part of his writings, without his
consent?—If I did not believe, that the hu-
manity of this honest fellow would render it
unnecessary—I would beg the favour of a
certain English friend, now at Liege—whose
modesty will not permit him, to have his
name annexed to his own case—to make
him my apology—

REMARKS
UPON THE EFFECTS OF
DR. LE FEVRE'S GOUT-POUDERS.
—BY LAURENCE YAN—
—A Literal Translation—

“ UPON the 26th day of February 1769,
“ I arrived at Liege—and the same day took
“ the first dose of the Powders—and I fi-
“ nished the course the seventh day of March

G

66 —having

“ —having taken, in all, ten doses—that is
“ to say—every day a dose—

“ I perceived no great effects from my
“ first journey—all that I materially observ’d
“ —was—that the first Powders I took af-
“ fected me, I thought, with a slight sickness
“ at my stomach, much after the manner of
“ a nausea—the medicine however staid with
“ me—after this I was never sensible of any
“ future emotion—towards the end of the
“ ten doses, my water that I made in the
“ evening, appeared a little troubled—and I
“ apprehended I could perceive myself some-
“ what more at liberty than I had been, in
“ the use and exercise of my limbs—

“ The seventh day of March I returned
“ home—I remain’d here for the space of
“ twenty days—and though I continued to
“ take no medicine during the interval, I
“ could perceive my water constantly display-
“ ing the same appearance, I had before re-
“ marked—that is to say—it was thick and
“ troubled—

“ The twenty-seventh of March I made
“ my second journey to Liege, and resumed
“ taking

“ taking the Powders in the same manner
“ as before——

“ At the third or fourth dose of this course
“ the medicine produced a still more evident
“ effect upon the urinary secretion—my urine
“ being not only very much troubled, but
“ charged with a glairy matter—I was at the
“ same time a little costive——

“ It was towards the conclusion of this
“ course, that I first began to perspire—the
“ articulation of the left foot had been, by
“ the violence of the Gout, render'd stiff and
“ motionless—I now found it becoming pliant
“ and flexible—insomuch—that upon my re-
“ turn home, I was capable of drawing on a
“ pair of boots, which I had not been able
“ to do for a considerable time——

“ It was upon the fifth of April, that I
“ returned home—where I remained as be-
“ fore, without taking any medicine——

“ Four or five days after my return, I
“ began to perspire copiously during the
“ night—in ten days more I had an eruption
“ of pimples in all my joints most exposed

“ to the heat, attended with a violent itching
 “ —my water continu’d to be charg’d and
 “ troubled—The movement of all my limbs
 “ became more and more free—and I was
 “ now able to hold myself in a much more
 “ erect posture, than I had been able to do
 “ for some time past—

“ The 26th of April I repair’d once more
 “ to Liege—and entered upon the last course
 “ of ten days—

“ During the time of this course the sweats
 “ continued as before—together with the
 “ itchings, which at the third or fourth dose
 “ were augmented—I was again a little co-
 “ stive, which lasted only a day or two—all
 “ my limbs were every day more pliant
 “ and disengaged—I no longer, in passing
 “ through the streets, contemplated every
 “ stone before I ventur’d to put my foot
 “ down upon it—on the contrary—I ran
 “ over the pavement as though nothing had
 “ ever ailed me—a happy transiſion!—from
 “ a constant state of pain night and day—
 “ an inability of walking five hundred paces
 “ without resting—and a constant experience
 “ of the greatest torture upon rising to renew
 “ the

“ the motion !—Thus relieved, and in a state
 “ of cure, I returned to my own house the
 “ fifth of May”—



The foregoing are the natural remarks of a man of plain and good understanding, upon the effects of this singular remedy—It was in November last, that I conversed with him—a point of curiosity and satisfaction which I recommend to every future Gouty-patient—I found him amazingly restor'd to his former vigor and activity—His countenance carried the appearance of the most florid health—his person was perfectly erect—and he walk'd extremely well—His appetite and digestion, he assur'd me, were both extremely good—that he eat and drank freely of any kind of food or liquor—and that since the time of taking Dr. Le Fevre's remedy—he had had only one gouty attack attended with any considerable pain—the seat of which was his wrist, and its duration only eighteen hours—The age of this patient is forty-four—

Sorry I am, for the sake of the English Gouty-reader, that I am not at liberty to insert the name of the next Patient, whose

case so remarkably merits the public notice—
but I know not from what mistaken point of
delicacy, this Gentleman, benevolent in every
other instance, refuses the sanction of his name
to any public recommendation of the Liege-
medicine—To his private friends and ac-
quaintance he has given it the encouragement
of his warmest applause—as indeed, in gra-
titude he ought—

This Gentleman, whose many worthy qua-
lities were I to enumerate them, would be a
sufficient description of him, I found, upon my
arrival at Liege, restored to a state of health
and ease to which he had been for years a
stranger—a state indeed, which would have
been most amazing to any of the last year's
company at Spa, who had seen him in the
drooping and almost dying condition, to which
a most inveterate Gout, of thirty years stand-
ing, had reduced him—

A martyr to this cruel disorder, in every
possible instance of its persecution, there is
scarcely a medicine celebrated for the cure
or relief of it, that this Gentleman has not
made trial of—Afflicted with almost every
dreadful symptom, described by Sydenham

or Warner, in their detail of its horrid varieties, many are the watering-places of this country, at whose streams he has sought assistance in the Gout—and not a few the Physicians whose opinions he has consulted—He has in vain courted health at the mineral springs of Aix-la-Chapelle and Spa—nor has he met with better success from his experiment, in the Winter of 1769, of the mild and genial air of the South of France—I enter into no particular description of this Gentleman's case, though I have by me every extraordinary article of it, read deliberately to him in person, and to some part of which himself made additions—This was during my acquaintance with him at Liege, where we liv'd near two months in the same house—the pleasing memory of which, and of his friendship and civilities, I shall ever retain—

It shall suffice therefore to observe—that if any Gentleman in the neighbourhoods of Berwick—Ipswich or Hull—or any person who has been very frequently at Bath—were asked the question—Who, in their judgment, was one of the most confirmed gouty subjects they ever knew?—The name of my friend would be no longer any secret—

In apparently the last stage of the Gout in his stomach, accompanied with an almost continual gouty diarrhæa—infirm and debilitated in his limbs—and satisfied in himself, as he has often assured me, that he had nothing to risque, even from an untried medicine—Mr. —— commenced taking the Gout-powders in July 1769—having engaged Dr. Le Fevre, in consideration of the inveteracy of his cafe, to give him four courses—

During the first course—this Gentleman, in common with the major part of the Doctor's Patients, perceived little or no benefit—nor was he sensible of any operation of the medicine upon any of the secretions—

In the second course of the Powders an alteration for the better became extremely evident—The stomach and head of this Patient were render'd perfectly easy—his appetite became good—and the gouty pains considerably diminished—

After the third course—this Gentleman's person had resumed its proper erect position—his feet and ankles had in such manner recover'd their lost tone, that he was capable of walking

walking better than he had done for the last twenty years—and his gouty diarrhæa had entirely disappear'd—his evacuations were all regular—he had indeed little or no perceptibly increased perspiration—but the medicine continued to operate upon him, as it had for some time acted, by a sensible augmentation of the secretion of urine—

The fourth course appears to have produc'd no additional effects—nature being, as Dr. Le Fevre expresses it, sufficiently saturated with the three former courses—

The same slight gouty dispositions attended this Gentleman, during the whole course of the medicine and since, which have attended myself and others—not indeed sufficient to occasion any confinement, but to produce sensation enough to keep alive in him the memory of what the Gout—once was—

At the time I took my leave of Mr. —, at the latter end of November 1769, his appetite and digestion continued extremely good—he was capable of drinking the smallest French-wines without any inconvenience—his complexion, from that of a pale jaundic'd

colour when he arriv'd at Liege, carried the most healthy appearance—his person, from an emaciated state, had recover'd its former plumpness—and, upon the whole, this Gentleman's constitution was become—and I have the satisfaction of being very lately inform'd still continues to be—universally restor'd—and there is the strongest presumption to induce belief—that he is in the fairest way towards receiving a complete cure of his disorder—

Thus, to his own astonishment, and the astonishment of all this Gentleman's friends—what neither the once-fam'd tar-water—lime-water—the Portland-powders—a regular salivation—a whole year of a milk and vegetable diet—Dr. Drake's medicine—the prescriptions of different Physicians—nor the hot or cold mineral waters of different parts of Europe—(all which he has successively experienced) could effectuate—a tea-spoonful of a certain Powder, taken for a certain number of mornings, and producing very little sensible operation, the fortunate discovery of a young Flemish Physician, is likely to accomplish—
—The age of Mr. —— is fifty-four or fifty-five—

Sorry I am to acquaint the Gouty-reader, that the presence of this Gentleman, the sight of whom, added to his own relation of his case, would produce more conviction in this matter, than ten such Pamphlets as the present, is not likely soon to be indulged to his fellow-sufferers of this country—Mr. —— having resolved, according to my last advices from Liege, to make the tour of the German Courts, and afterwards to visit Italy before his return into England—

Besides my very worthy friend above-mentioned, and myself, the Doctor had two other Gout-patients under cure at the same time with ourselves—These Gentlemen, if I mistake not, are natives of the Bishopric of Liege —the one was Count Rougrave, Grand Vicar of the Diocese—the other Monsieur Blavier, a Colonel in the service of Spain—

With each of these Gentlemen I had a particular conversation upon the subject of the Liege-medicine.

When for this purpose I made a visit to the Count, he received me with a politeness and affability which distinguish the character of

of this very agreeable Nobleman—and, at the same time, he assured me, he should readily make me acquainted with every circumstance of his disorder, into which I should think it material to inquire—Count Rougrave accordingly gave me this information—

That he had been subject to the Gout seven or eight years, but not with any extreme violence—that he generally had one fit in the space of eight or nine months, which usually confined him to his apartment for the space of six weeks or two months—and that the gouty attacks were generally in his feet and knees—that he had frequently severe gouty head-achs—and that his appetite and digestion were very indifferent, which he attributed to the effects of the gouty humour—

It was in September last, that the Count began to take the Powders—About the fourth or fifth day of the first course, he was attack'd with the Gout in his feet, one knee, and, for the first time, in his right hand—He was confin'd only a few days by this fit, the pain of which, as he apprehended, was not so considerable, as it had been ordinarily used to be—

During the interval between the first and second course, and the subsequent interval, the Count's health continued perfectly well, the gouty disorder in his head being almost totally remov'd—

It was at the end of the third course of the Powders, that I had the honour of this conversation with Count Rougrave—At that time, as he assur'd me, his appetite and digestion were become exceedingly better, than at any part of his life, and his head was perfectly free from any gouty symptoms—

The age of this Nobleman is forty-four or forty-five—

It would not be to do justice to this noble and respectable ecclesiastic, not to mention—that he professed so much regard to the English nation, as to desire, that any future English Gentleman, who, in order to take the Gout-powders should, for the necessary time, make Liege his residence, might be recommended to him, under a full assurance of receiving, from the Count, every civility it may be in his power to render him—

The particulars I receiv'd from Colonel Blavier were—that it was about seven years since his first attack of the Gout—that he had had, however, regular fits every year in the extremities—that his head had been sometimes affected with it—and that his appetite, from the time of his being affected with the Gout, had been very indifferent—

This Gentleman, as he inform'd me, commenc'd taking the Powders, with a fit of the Gout upon him in his feet—one knee—and one elbow—and that, in his opinion, the fit was render'd more gentle by the operation of the Powders, his feet having recover'd, from the incidental gouty lameness, in a less time than usual—

It was at the end of the second course, when the Colonel gave me this information—to which he added—that his head was perfectly well—that his appetite and digestion were better than they had been for many years—and that, upon the whole, though he had proceeded no farther than the second course of the medicine, he apprehended himself to have received considerable benefit—

Monsieur Blavier's age is about fifty—

Another Patient there is—to whom the Doctor administer'd his Powders, and with whom I had the honour of being acquainted during my residence at Liege—whose name I should not have inserted in this publication, the gouty-case appearing to me, who have suffered by the Gout so severely, too slight to render it worthy of notice—But from a truly laudable motive of enforcing, by an addition to the number if not to the weight of cases,—it is the request of the Lady herself to have her name here inserted—and hence it is, I am to give the Doctor the credit of enrolling her among the list of his Gouty-patients—

This Lady, Mother Angelique, a very respectable Nun, of the Convent of English Nuns at Liege—is a sister of Lord Sturton—Her Gout, according to the description, with which she was so obliging to favour me, appear'd to be of the flying or irregular sort—Though it had for several years past, at different times, affected her sufficiently to have occasioned a swelling, an inflammation, and a lameness in the extremities—yet does it not seem ever to have given her any very considerable

derable pain—A gouty disorder in this Lady's hips, and across her loins, had so much incommoded her in walking, besides exciting at times very uneasy sensations—that some time in the last year—she determin'd to avail herself of the assistance of Dr. Le Fevre's medicine—

The consequence has been, as this good Lady repeatedly assur'd me—that she finds herself greatly amended in walking—that she has no longer any uneasiness in her loins or her hips—that the frequent swellings and inflammations in her feet are very much, if not entirely abated—and that the general state of her health is improved by the use of the Doctor's Powders—Mother Angelique's age is I believe about fifty.

Having thus submitted to the public, with all possible candor and impartiality, the state of an evidence arising from facts, such as to render it highly probable, that a specific for the Gout is at last obtain'd—it may be expected that, for the satisfaction of the curious and the speculative, I say something of the theory upon which Dr. Le Fevre builds his system of the undoubted curability of the Gout by the efficacy of his medicine—

The following then is the account the Doctor gives of the Gout, and his own peculiar mode of treating it—in which, if I am not so intelligible as I could wish, I beg the Gouty-reader will impute it to my own perplexity in the conveyance of it to him, rather than to any want of clearness in the Doctor's explication of his meaning—

“ Dr. Le Fevre defines the Gout to be a volatile humour—He says, that the physical energy of his medicine consists, in attaching, fixing, and uniting itself to this volatile humour, by a certain particular and natural analogy—in other words—that his medicine is of a nature analogous to the gouty-humour, and that being received into the circulation, it becomes intimately and inseparably blended with it—

“ He says--that being accurately acquainted with the force and properties of his medicine, he takes care to have circulated, in the fluid system of the body, exactly such a quantity of the Gout-powder, as may be sufficient thoroughly to impregnate, with its virtues, the gouty germ—

“ He says—that animated with the active
 “ principle of his medicine, this gouty germ
 “ becomes capable of evaporation—for being
 “ abundantly saturated with it, it is progres-
 “ sively put into a state of motion, and being
 “ incessantly, tho’ in a manner insensible to the
 “ Patient, exposed to the hostile attacks of this
 “ principle, the Gouty-germ is, in a course of
 “ time, chased out of and expelled the human
 “ system—The evacuatories, by which this
 “ expulsion is effected, are those of—perspi-
 “ ration and urine—and the time necessary to
 “ produce a complete evaporation, and the
 “ consequential expulsion of the whole gouty
 “ germ—is from fifteen to twenty months—

“ He says—that as the exercise of the vir-
 “ tues of his medicine is thus progressive—the
 “ Gouty-patient must expect no other change
 “ wrought in his disorder, than a regular and
 “ continual diminution of the pain and dura-
 “ tion of the gouty-fits, till the final eradication
 “ of the cause which occasioned them.—The
 “ Gout therefore, says the Doctor, for the space
 “ of time in which the cure is completing, will
 “ return into the same parts it has been used to
 “ attack, and at its wonted period—but with
 “ a force, in every respect, gradually diminish-
 “ ing

“ ing—This diminution, says he, will become
 “ first evident to the Patient, about the time of
 “ the fifth dose of the first course of the Pow-
 “ ders—and will be more and more sensible to
 “ him, in proportion as the period of the
 “ gouty-fit is more distant from the concluding
 “ dose of the last course of the medicine—
 “ insomuch—that towards the expiration of
 “ the twenty months, requisite to exterminate
 “ the gouty germ—the last efforts of the gout
 “ will no longer deserve the appellation of a
 “ fit, but merit rather the title—of—the last
 “ sighs of an expiring distemper”——

Whether my friend Le Fevre's opinion, concerning the physical nature of the Gout be just, or it be not, I will not pretend to determine—One advantage he has to claim in support of it, which the authors of other Gout-systems have not to urge in behalf of their opinions—He has the advantages of a series of experiments on the side of his theory—Amongst the writers who, with great display of learning, have ascribed the Gout to different causes, none have ever approached so near towards the cure of it—And till a person shall arise, who can treat the Gout more skilfully than this Gentleman, one may fairly enough, I think,

I think, give him credit for his definition of it—that the Gout is a volatile humour—

As I set out with a design of laying before the Gouty-reader every interesting circumstance to him concerning the Liege-medicine—I must not omit to insert the regimen, prescribed by Dr. Le Fevre to his Patients, to be observ'd during the twenty months while their cure is depending—they will find in it, I believe, no severities sufficient to deter any gouty man from taking the medicine, through a terror of the two year's abstinence and mortification, to which the Doctor's regimen may be supposed to condemn him—

“ The Patient is to use moderation in eating
“ and drinking, and to keep regular hours—

“ He is to drink no highly fermented
“ Champagne, that is—the *vin blanc* and
“ *mousseux*—

“ His wines are to be old and good, and
“ he is never to exceed a pint—

“ The wines to which the Doctor gives the
“ preference are Pontac, Blecquer, the white
“ wines

“ wines of the Rhine, and the Moselle; and, in
“ general, all wines that are not heating—

“ Liqueurs or drams, of all kinds, are to
“ be abstained from, except in case of ne-
“ cessity—

“ The Patient is to be cautious in the use
“ of punch—

“ To take nothing between meals—

“ To walk much, and constantly every
“ day, even to fatigue—

“ And during the little fits of the Gout,
“ which are to be expected, to observe the
“ most exact temperance”—

It only now remains, that I take my leave
of the Gouty-reader, in the best manner I am
able—And here—but that I have already done
it in the introduction—I would make him my
apology, for having, as is too probable, tra-
vell'd him through many a weary page—let me
however be permitted, in my own behalf to
say, if it be any attonement, weary have they
been to myself—If I have stood forth, as the
little

little author of a Pamphlet, it is for the sake of my gouty-brethren, that I have done so—No narrow or Fordid motive could have call'd me out into print—Actuated alone by the benevolent hopes of doing some service to my fellow-sufferers, I expect little praise, and I know myself obnoxious to much censure for the many errors in this publication—I entertain nevertheless no doubt, but agreeably to the generosity, characteristic of gouty men, I shall meet, at their hands, with the candor this performance so very much stands in need of—and sure I am, I shall esteem myself sufficiently rewarded for the pains it has cost me, faulty as it is, should those pains be the means of inducing one worthy arthritic brother, to give himself the same fair probability—I am every day more and more convinc'd I have given myself—of being cur'd of a most excruciating disorder—by the Gout-powders of Dr. Le Fevre—

T H E E N D.

A P P E N D I X.



A P P E N D I X.

IN pursuance of my promise—given to the reader in the title-page—and in conformity to the idea I had early conceived, during my residence at Liege, of procuring, for the future Gout-patient, if it were possible, a more reasonable and more agreeable accommodation in this City, than it was my lot to meet with upon my arrival in it—a plan is here submitted to the public consideration, and the acceptance of it solicited, by Monsieur Le Febure, a citizen and wine-merchant of Liege—

This very honest and worthy person is proprietor of a large and commodious house near the

the Episcopal Palace—The cellars belonging to it are spacious and excellent—Behind it are romantic and pleasant hanging gardens of no little extent, though both the house and its gardens are situated in the heart of the City—

Monsieur Le Febure, though a native of the province of Champagne in France, is by descent an Englishman—It is for this reason, and from an opinion, that it may be more satisfactory to themselves, that he appropriates his house for the sole reception and entertainment of any Gentlemen or Ladies of these kingdoms, who, either for the purpose of taking the Gout-powders, or from any other motive, may be inclin'd to reside at Liege, for any longer space of time, than what is merely necessary to pass through it—

If I might presume to suppose, that the recommendation of the author of this Pamphlet, would have any weight with the future gouty or other traveller, I should be strongly inclined to recommend, with that particular zeal, which their civil treatment of me entitles them, Monsieur Le Febure and his family, to the notice and favour of my countrymen—

In the following table, each article is literally translated from the original, which I have in Monsieur Le Febure's own handwriting—

A T A B L E
OF THE EXPENCE OF LODGING AND DIET,
AT THE HOUSE OF MONSIEUR LE FEBURE,
WINE-MERCHANT AT LIEGE.

L O D G I N G.

A handsome bedchamber, furnished with bed and other linen, &c. &c. including a bed for a servant in the same or an adjoining apartment, at ONE GUINEA AND A HALF per month—

Without a servant, at ONE GUINEA AND A QUARTER per month.

Any Gentleman, having more than one attendant, and chusing to engage a greater number of apartments, shall pay according to the same proportion—this proportion shall not be equivocal—each bedchamber and each apartment being to be number'd and rated according to the goodness of it—

Fire (which is exceeding cheap at Liege) is not herein included, nor candles—

D I E T.

The public table shall be neatly and properly serv'd—There shall be admitted to it, as has been before intimated, none, but the subjects of his Britannic Majesty—And Monsieur Le Febure farther engages, that the dishes, as well French as English, shall be sufficient in number and excellently dressed—

The ordinary for dinner, at TWO ESCHALINS AND A HALF *—

For supper ONE ESCHALIN AND A HALF—

For the diet of a servant, TWO ESCHALINS per day—

With regard to wine—as the price varies somewhat according to the different vintages—no absolute rate can be fixed—but Monsieur Le Febure promises, that his wines shall be

* A Liegois Eschalin is in value nearly sixpence half-penny English money.

all good and genuine, and at a less price than they are sold at any of the Inns or Auberges at Liege—

In general I believe Burgundy will be at THREE ESCHALINS per bottle—Champagne at FIVE—Claret at FOUR.—Rhenish or Moselle at THREE—

Monsieur Le Febure will be answerable to have any a partment, or such numbers of apartments as he can furnish, ready, upon the arrival of any English Gentleman, on condition he is favoured with notice of his intended journey, previously to his setting out—Or he will procure proper accommodations upon reasonable terms, at the house of some other Citizen of Liege, if his own house should happen to be full—He will likewise be ready to execute any orders for the purchase of any commodity of the country—or receive and take care of any thing addressed to him from England—

His address is—

*Le Febure negociant maître de fabrique a côté
des Mineurs pres le Palais Episcopal—
Liege—*

A DETAIL OF THE BEST AND MOST APPROV'D,
INNS UPON THE ROAD TO LIEGE—EITHER
BY THE ROUT OF CALAIS OR OSTEND—

ROUT BY CALAIS.

Calais	—	the	—	Table Royal—
If by	{	St. Omer's	—	Hotel Royal—
		Dunkirk	—	White Hart*—
		Lifle	—	Hotel Royal—
		Courtraye	—	Le Chapeau—
		Ghent	—	Le St. Sebastien †—
		Bruffels	—	Hotel Imperial ‡—
		Louvain	—	Hotel de Cologne—
		Tirlemont	—	Le Cerfe—
		St. Irons	—	Le Batteau—
	{	Liege	—	Aigle-noir —
			—	L'Agneau—

* This house is kept by Mr. Oakley, an Englishman, and is situated upon the Quay.

† This is an excellent house.

‡ Too much cannot be said in recommendation of this house, which is kept by one Mr. Krista—Both himself and his wife speak good English—and are most civil and obliging persons.

|| At the Aigle-noir is no Table d'Hotel—at the Agneau there is an excellent one.

As it is not unlikely, but during the intervals of the several courses, the Gouty-patient may be induc'd to visit those famous places of fashionable and physical resort—Aix-la-Chapelle and Spa—it may not be superfluous to add to the above list a recommendation of some house of public entertainment at each—At the former, I can from my own experience, with great justice, warmly recommend to the English traveller the *Roi d'Angleterre*—At this house he will find every accommodation a person of the first fashion can desire, at a very reasonable rate, and the utmost civility and attention from Mr. Brammartz and his wife, the present honest and obliging keepers of this Hotel—At Spa the house the English generally use is—the *Cours de Londre*, kept by one Ogilby a Scotchman—

R O U T E B Y O S T E N D.

Ostend *	—	La Maison de Ville
Bruges	—	Le Fleur de Bled—

* From Ostend to Ghent is a very commodious and cheap passage by water—particularly from Bruges, the *Trackskuyt* is excellent—the passengers dine aboard, and are exceedingly well entertain'd.

Ghent *

Ghent * — Le St. Sébastien

At many, indeed most of the Inns above nam'd, is a Table d'Hote or Ordinary, at which, for those to whom the difference of the expence of travelling is of any moment, it is most adviseable always to dine—otherwise—to avoid being imposed upon—it is recommended to every traveller to specify the dishes he would chuse for dinner or supper—and to agree for the price—

* At Ghent—the two roads by Ostend and by Calais become united.



P O S T S C R I P T.

SINCE the above was written, the author has, at the request of ten Gentlemen of fortune and condition in this Country, dispatched an invitation to Dr. Le Fevre to come over to England—it has been already intimated, that this Gentleman had given me authority to declare his readiness to visit these kingdoms, whenever he should be respectably called hither—The invitation made him by these Gentlemen, appears to me so clearly to come within this idea, that I have warmly recommended it to the Doctor's acceptance—Should nothing have happened to make it necessary to him to have chang'd his resolution—the public may be assur'd, that due notice shall be given of the time he may appoint for his journey to England—

As Dr. Le Fevre against his own sentiments, has been, in a manner, constrained to name some certain sum for the administration of his medicine—

medicine—his terms are one hundred guineas—Such however is his humanity, that, to persons whose circumstances are not easy, he has empower'd me to engage for him, that he will expect only such a present as may be proportionate to their abilities—

Before I finally close this performance, it may be a satisfaction to the reader, that I give the resolutions to two questions which may possibly be asked me—Whence comes it to pass, may some persons demand, that this publication has been so long suspended; when it appears the author returned to England the beginning of December last?—The reason has been—that he wished to avoid the censure of precipitation—For the four last years, he has never escaped a severe and universal fit of the Gout, in one or other of the months of December or January—It was a matter therefore of justice to the Gouty-reader, that the person who meant to encourage others, to hope a cure, should himself wait the experience of two dangerous months, to determine him, whether he had any title to a well-grounded hope of being cur'd himself—He has now not only passed over those perilous months, but nearly the month of February—In the course

course of these months, he has indeed been visited by the Gout, but with that diminished force the Doctor had taught him to expect—

Others again, may demand, why was not this publication delay'd, till the twenty months were expired, requisite to complete the cure?—To this it may be replied—upon no other account has the publication been accelerated, but this very humane one—viz.—that during the progressive moments of the author's own expectations, his suffering gouty brother may also have it in his option to determine, whether, upon the judgment he may form from these sheets, it be prudent to lose any time, in putting himself into the same state of curative progression with the author, and others who have taken the medicine.

CHARING, Feb. 7, 1770.

L

Dr. LE FEVRE'S

Dr. L^E FEVRE's Answer to the above mentioned Invitation having arrived in time to be inserted in the postscript—a translation of it, is here given to the public—

S I R,

I AM extremely sensible of the honour Mr. S— and his friends confer upon me, by their invitation to visit England—Be persuaded, I shall never lose memory of the satisfaction I receive from it—But to deal sincerely with you, I have several reasons, which for the present, absolutely prevent my accepting the favour designed me, by the above Gentlemen—

Till the approaching month of April, my attendance is necessarily confined to this place, by a number of Patients, who are taking my medicine, and this number is continually increasing—but this is not all—No sooner shall I be disengaged from my present set of Patients, than I am bound in honour, to remain here for the same course of time, administering my Powders to certain other Gentlemen, who, as you well know, have already announced to me their intention of coming to Liege to be cured of the Gout, in April next—So that my time will be all employed, till far into the ensuing Summer.—

But there is another argument of no less weight with me—it is, that I would willingly have my credit rest upon a greater number of gout cases, than have hitherto come under my treatment, before I visit England—In like manner, am I desirous, that, in the few instances of those, whose cures are already accomplished, a greater space of time should elapse from the date of their last gouty attacks, than has elapsed at present—

You will lose no time, my dear friend, in conveying this intelligence to Mr. S—, assuring him that I feel myself not a little mortified, in having it not in my power, very quickly, to accept his invitation.—Present to that gentleman, I intreat you, my best respects—and believe, my dear Sir, that I am, with sincerity,

Your affectionate Friend,

LE FEVRE, Medecin.

Liege, Feb. 16, 1770.

A. M. Thompson

